A Finding Aid to the
James G. Heller Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 147
Collection Summary

Title               James G. Heller Papers
Dates               1905-1952
Collection Number   MS-147
Repository          The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator            Heller, James G. (James Gutheim), 1892-1971
Extent              0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)
Language of the Material  English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch  James Gutheim Heller was born in New Orleans on January 4, 1892, to the famous Reform rabbi Maximilian H. Heller. He received an undergraduate degree from Tulane University, a graduate degree from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, and was ordained a rabbi at Hebrew Union College. Heller was rabbi of Congregation Bene Yeshurun (Isaac M. Wise Temple) in Cincinnati from 1920-1952, and was involved with several organizations including the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Labor Zionist Organization of America, and the State of Israel Bonds Organization. He was an active Zionist, and introduced Youth Temple, which was designed to bring young individuals together for religious education. Heller was also a composer and musician who wrote program notes for the Cincinnati Symphony. He died in Cincinnati on December 19, 1971.

Scope and Content   Includes correspondence, pamphlets, magazine and newspaper articles written by Heller or concerning his interests or professional activities, Heller's musical compositions, and sermons.

Arrangement         The collection is arranged in three (3) series: A. Correspondence; B. Compositions; C. Personal.

Terms of Access     The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

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Preferred Citation  Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the James G. Heller Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-147. James G. Heller Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance          Received from James G. Heller, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Processing Information  Processed by American Jewish Archives staff.

Index Terms

Subjects                        Jewish composers / Jews -- Ohio -- Cincinnati / Rabbis
Personal Names                  Heller, James G. (James Gutheim), 1892-1971
Corporate Names                 Congregation Bene Yeshurun (Cincinnati, Ohio)
Media                           Sermons

Series A. Correspondence, 1907-1952
Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. A-E, General, 1910-1952
Box 1. Folder 2. Cincinnati, Ohio - Congregation. KK Bene Yeshurun [Isaac M. Wise Temple], 1920-1952, undated
Box 1. Folder 3. F-K, General (includes German reports), 1907-1938
Box 1. Folder 5. L-R, General, 1919-1947
Box 1. Folder 6. Little Rock, Arkansas - Congregation B'nai Israel, 1919-1920
Box 1. Folder 10. Zionist Organization of America, 1937, 1930, undated
Box 1. Folder 11. Unidentified correspondence, 1926-1932, undated

Series B. Compositions, 1914-1951

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 13. "The Burden of the West" oratorio, 1937
Box 1. Folder 14. "The Quest of the Holy Dagesh" (HUC student production), 1914
Box 1. Folder 15. Music compositions, undated

Series C. Personal, 1905-1948

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 16. Testimonials on Heller, 1948
Box 1. Folder 17. Personal miscellaneous, 1905-1933, undated